

Two days before her death, Amini had been arrested by the Iranian regime's "morality police." Her crime, in their eyes, was wearing a loose-fitting headscarf and tight-fitting pants. The Iranian regime claims that she died of a heart attack, but we know the truth: the police beat her to death.

The world has a tendency to look away from tragedies like Amini's. Stories like hers fade from the news cycle until they are forgotten or met with indifference. But when the Iranian people take to the streets every day to protest Amini's murder and demand fundamental rights, they make it impossible for the world to avert its gaze. By virtue of their courage, they force the world to bear witness. In the streets, protestors chant the inscription on Amini's tombstone: "Beloved Mahsa, you will not die. Your name will become a rallying call." And her name has become just that.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the brave women of Iran who are fighting for the right to live in freedom and dignity. I rise in support of the men standing alongside them who are demanding political rights and an end to theocratic rule. And I rise to solemnly recognize the terrible cost that the people of Iran are paying as they take to the streets. Security forces have killed hundreds of protestors, firing on them with live ammunition and beating them severely. Those caught up in mass arrests could face the death penalty.

The people of Iran are putting their lives on the line to demand fundamental freedoms. They suffer today in hopes of building a better tomorrow—for themselves, for their families, and for future generations. This is a profoundly noble effort that deserves not just our admiration, but also our support.

Those taking to the streets across Iran should know that we are watching them and that we are praying for them. And members of the Iranian regime should know that when a people truly yearn for freedom, and are willing to give their lives for it, their cause is a flame that will never go out.

RECOGNIZING RAY MUELLER
UPON HIS DEPARTURE FROM
THE MENLO PARK CITY COUNCIL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend and colleague Ray Mueller who served on the Menlo Park City Council for ten years, two terms as mayor, as he is entering a new chapter in his public service career. Ray was just elected as the San Mateo County Supervisor for the 3rd District where he will undoubtedly continue his outstanding and dedicated service to the community.

Ray was first elected to the council in 2012. During his tenure he was always focused on improving the quality of life and safety of residents, the economy and the environment. As the father of two teenagers, Max, 16 and Elle, 12, he is particularly driven to work towards policies that will ensure the future of his and all children. He is married to his high school sweetheart Kristen Shima. I have known Ray for a decade and have always been impressed and inspired by his can-do attitude, resourcefulness, and optimism.

Ray is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and he received his JD from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. He now works as an attorney in the emergency response and services sector. His legal acumen and analytical mind have certainly served the city of Menlo Park very well. Along with his council colleagues, he has been able to balance the city budget for eight consecutive years and to maintain the city's AAA bond rating since he was elected. He and the council have also saved taxpayers millions of dollars through smart policies.

Menlo Park, like the rest of the Bay Area, is plagued by a lack of affordable housing and traffic congestion. Ray has strongly advocated solutions for these interconnected issues. During his time on the council, Menlo Park adopted two housing elements. He was appointed and served on the State of California Tax Credit Allocation Committee which administers the federal and state low-income housing tax credit programs. Menlo Park set aside housing units with rental subsidies for teachers and other community-serving professionals in housing development approvals. Ray worked with Facebook to add housing units on its proposed campus expansion. During the pandemic, Menlo Park made \$100,000 available in grants for emergency rental housing assistance. Ray served on the board of LifeMoves, one of the largest homeless services providers in Silicon Valley.

He and his fellow council members also developed and approved a citywide Transportation Master Plan which focuses on traffic mitigation, safe routes to schools and across freeways, street resurfacing and sidewalks, and improved rail service.

Ray is particularly passionate about our youth. When he was mayor in 2019, he created a youth advisory commission. He launched an after school homework center at the Belle Haven Library bringing in skilled volunteers to provide one-on-one support. He also hosted several civics days at city hall and taught leadership classes at the Boys and Girls Club. During the pandemic, he reactivated childcare centers and transformed after-school programs into learning pods for distance learning.

Ray fully understands that without climate change mitigation our planet and the future of our youth hangs in the balance. In 2020, Menlo Park adopted its first Climate Action Plan. Four years prior, he voted to enroll all city facilities in ECO 100, a program that provides 100 percent renewable energy for city buildings, streetlights and charging stations. As mayor in 2014, Ray prioritized the formation of Menlo Park Spark to promote regional climate action policy. He is also a staunch defender of our open spaces and parks. Despite his extensive work hours as an attorney and council member, he manages to find time to volunteer for the San Mateo chapter of the Surfrider Foundation. An avid surfer himself, Ray has a deep love and respect for the awesome power of nature. He is currently taking a hiatus from the sport to allow a serious neck injury to heal.

Madam Speaker, I ask the Members of the House of Representatives to rise with me to thank Ray Mueller for his exemplary service on the Menlo Park City Council and to wish him continued success and stamina for his upcoming service on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. His contributions will keep shaping our beautiful county and coast.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN SMITH

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brian Smith for his service to Kentucky's Second District as my director of economic development for more than a decade.

Brian, a proud Western Kentucky University graduate, had served on my congressional team since I was first sworn into office in January 2009. Prior to joining my office, Brian had years of government service to Kentucky, including working for my predecessor, Congressman Ron Lewis, and former Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher. During Brian's first month in my congressional office, Brian helped lead my office's emergency response efforts after an ice storm hit Kentucky. He walked constituents through the FEMA process and directed them to federal resources to help with recovery.

In addition to covering Green and Hardin counties for my congressional office, Brian guided constituents through the federal grant process and handled issues related to federal agencies, including U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA, USDA Rural Development, and HUD. Brian also proudly served as a liaison to Fort Knox, working with both civilian and military leaders.

Brian's extensive knowledge of Kentucky and passion for serving constituents made him a valuable asset to my team. I want to thank Brian for his service to Kentucky's Second District, and I wish him the best in the next chapter of his public service career.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL CAREER ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th anniversary of the International Career Advancement Program (ICAP). Founded and led by Prof. E. Thomas Rowe since 1997 at the University of Denver's Korbel School of International Affairs, ICAP's aim is to bring greater quality and diversity to the highest level of senior management and policy-making positions in international affairs. ICAP is one of the only programs in the United States dedicated to helping mid-career professionals from under-represented communities advance to senior positions in international careers. Each cohort since 1997 has been immersed in a week-long seminar in Aspen CO consisting of workshops and discussions designed to prepare participants to serve in senior management and policy roles.

Madam Speaker, to date, over 770 people have participated in the program and several ICAP Fellows have achieved the rank of United States Ambassador, serve as heads of NGOs, established their own non-profit organizations, and lead companies. The ICAP Fellows Association (ICAPFA) continues the mission of ICAP to offer its members mentorship, networking opportunities, and community service.